1:Du Bois E-5 (1938-1939) 1944
OF5 Alor OF5

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A Note on the Pronunciation of Personal and Place Names

SOUNDS

Vowels. A – in accented syllables as in English *father*; in unaccented syllables as in German *hat*. E – before *t* as in English *get*; elsewhere slightly lower and more open than German *geben*. I – as in English *see*; longer in stressed than in unstressed syllables. O – as in German, long in stressed syllables, short in unstressed. U – as in English *rule*, except in combination UNO, where it is short.

Diphthongs. AU and AI as in German *Baum* and *Main*. AA and IE are separate sounds.

Consonants. These are pronounced as in English.

STRESS

It should be borne in mind that the stress is always very slight. It varies according to the number of syllables. The language is poor in monosyllables, and there are none among personal and place names.

Two-Syllable Words. The stress is on the first syllable, except in words ending in -AU or -LE.

Three-Syllable Words. The stress is practically undetectable with the following exceptions: in words ending in -LAI, -LE, -LO, -MAI, -MAU, -TAI, and -TAU these syllables are slightly stressed; words ending in -PANI, -LANI, -LETI, -MINI, and -WATI are slightly stressed on the first syllable of the suffix; -MANI, and -PADA throw the accent onto the preceding syllable.

Four-Syllable Words. The stress falls on the penultimate except in words ending in -LE, -LO, -MA, -MAI, and -MAU, when these syllables are slightly stressed, and in words ending in -PADA, which always throws the accent onto the preceding syllable.

Five-Syllable Words. The stress is always on the penultimate, unless the word ends in -MALE, when the stress falls on the preceding syllable.

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* NOTE. The references in italics are to the autobiographies.